

Message Text

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13

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 DRC-01 /119 W

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R 170535Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5369

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

COMIDEASTFOR

CINCLANT

CINCPAC

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1531

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, XO, US, UK, TZ

SUBJ: JOURNALIST VISITS TO DIEGO GARCIA

REF: STATE 100897

1. ANY CONCEIVABLE TANZANIAN JOURNALIST WHO MIGHT BE ALLOWED BY GOVERNMENT TO VISIT DIEGO GARCIA WOULD BE EMPLOYEE OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED PRESS OR RADIO MEDIA. TANGOV IS IMPLACABLY OPPOSED TO US NAVAL ACTIVITY IN INDIAN OCEAN AND CONSTRUCTION OF DIEGO GARCIA VACILITY. WE SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT VISIT TO SITE BY TANZANIAN JOURNALIST WOULD CHANGE VIEW OF GOVERNMENT EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON JOURNALIST. WE DO NOT BELIEVE, THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ADVERTISE POSSIBILITY OF VISIT TO DIEGO

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GARCIA TO TANGOV. ON OTHER HAND, IF SENIOR TANZANIAN OFFICIAL

SHOULD APPROACH US ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF TANZANIAN JOURNALIST PAYING VISIT TO FACILITY, WE THINK AFFIRMATIVE REPLY WOULD RESULT IN LESS DAMAGE THAN NEGATIVE REPLY.

2. CONCERNING PARA 3 OF REFTTEL, DAVID MARTIN, LONDON OBSERVER AND BBC CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON, ASKED EMBOFF TWO MONTHS AGO IN DAR ES SALAAM ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF MAKING VISIT TO DIEGO GARCIA. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH MATTER HAD BEEN RAISED ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, NO FIRM PLANS HAD BEEN MADE FOR SUCH VISIT. IF GROUP TOUR IS ORGANIZED, STATE/DOD MAY WISH TO INVITE MARTIN.

3. CONCERNING TIMING OF VISIT (PARA 5 OF REFTTEL), SIXTH PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS (SPAC) IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN DAR ES SALAAM JUNE 19-27 (DAR 1455). AS SPAC IS POTENTIAL FORUM FOR CRITICISM OF US INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL PRESENCE, RECOMMEND ANY POSSIBLE JOURNALIST VISIT TO DIEGO GARCIA NOT BE HELD AT THAT TIME.
BEYER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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